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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Koslow et al.) Examiner: R. Popovics
Serial No.: 09/759,593) Art Unit: 1724
Filing Date: 12 January 2001)
For: DEVICE, METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR REMOVING CONTAMINANTS
FROM A LIQUID

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20221

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Dear Sir:

With regard to the Office Action mailed 25 July 2002, the Examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. §121: Group I, claims 1-14, 17-23 and 38-46, drawn to a device for removing contaminants from a liquid; Group II, claims 15 and 24-30, drawn to a method of removing contaminants from a liquid; and Group III, claims 16 and 31-37, drawn to a system having a means for removing contaminants from a liquid.

Applicants traverse the restriction on the grounds that 35 U.S.C. §121 authorizes restriction only when the claimed invention is independent and distinct. Applicants respectfully disagree that the inventions of Group I, Group II, and Group III are independent and distinct as to require a separate search for each group. However, to expedite prosecution in the present application, Applicants elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-14, 17-23 and 38-46 with traverse.

Applicant respectfully requests further substantive examination of the claims of Group I.

Although the undersigned believes that no fee is due with this response, please charge any over or under payment to Deposit Account No. 502371. Should any issues arise which may be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at 203-799-9000 x277.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: 12 August 2002

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the foregoing document is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents, U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231.

Shirley S. Ma
Name

12 August 2002
Date


Signature